AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (new): A diagnostic kit for detecting pulmonary and extra pulmonary tuberculosis, comprising a test card "TB Screen" coated with a hydrophobic material, an antigen suspension, a positive and a negative control.

Claim 12 (new): The kit as claimed in claim 11, wherein said antigen suspension is a liposome antigen and said test card is a plastic slide.

Claim 13 (new): The kit as claimed in claim 11, wherein said negative control is prepared from the blood of a normal young rabbit.

Claim 14 (new): The kit as claimed in claim 11, wherein said positive control is prepared from a 4 to 6 month old rabbit which is immunized with mycobacterium antigens and bled periodically.

Claim 15 (new): A method of detecting tuberculosis using a kit comprising applying a positive control, a negative control and a test sample, each in circular motion on a test card coated with a hydrophobic material; adding an antigen suspension to each of the positive, negative and test sample to interpret the results, wherein clumping of a specific antigen in the suspension and an antibody is observed as dark blue agglutination in the positive control and the test sample which contains the active tuberculosis infection.

Claim 16 (new): The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said antigen suspension is a liposome antigen.

Claim 17 (new): The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the lipid antigen for positive control is prepared comprising the steps of:

growing Mycobacterium tuberculosis $H_{37}Rv$ (ATCC-27294) strain on Sautons media;

harvesting cells in the media by centrifugation at 4° to 10°C;

subjecting said cells to the step of sonication;

extracting the antigens from said cells;

adding chloroform and methanol mixture (2:1) to said antigens with stirring at room temperature; and

subjecting the mixture to the step of filtration;

wherein the suspension thus obtained is transferred into a separating funnel and kept overnight until two distinct layers are separated, an upper aqueous phase is removed and the lower organic phase retained after filtration, said organic phase being dried by evaporating the solvent to obtain the lipid and subjecting said lipid to the further step of purification.

Claim 18 (new): The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said antigen suspension is prepared comprising the steps of:

adding phophotidylcholine, cholesterol, lipid antigens and dye in a flask and evaporating the solvent layer in a vacuum evaporator;

dissolving the dried contents thus obtained in absolute alcohol at 4° to 10°C for 1 to 2 hours to produce the antigen suspension;

adding said antigen suspension to a sucrose solution with continuous stirring and keeping said suspension at 2° to 8°C overnight;

subjecting said suspension to centrifugation and discarding the supernatant; and

suspending the pellet obtained into a buffer and stirring the same at 4° to 10°C.

Claim 19 (new): The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said lipid antigen is further purified using column chromatography.

Claim 20 (new): The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein said buffer comprises $NaH_2PO_42H_2O$, KH_2PO_4, EDTA, Choline Chloride and Thiomersol.

Claim 21 (new): The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein said dye is Sudan Black in chloroform.